

botanical advice, from Cambridge and
other points. I know of but little interesting
except what comes through the various
papers. Of course you have heard of
old Dr. Mead's death and now Prof. Ol-
fend is also gone. as an offset to
this may be put Leuninger's marriage.
C. L. Greene is crowing lustily over Porter
and myself in connection with his "Fend-
lera" *Utahensis* - Matsui's Whipplea. He
tried to convince him that Matsui was
right. Now he sends us your decision
the other way. His collections this year
are admirable. I have a letter from
Dr. Palmer who says that he has a
collection as large as the P. P. Mexican
one and that he will soon be off
again for Mexico. G. R. Vasey sends
a good Californian collection but no-
thing new I believe. I thought that the
suckered scrubs belonged to a new species,
of *Psoralea* but Mr. Matsui says that

Wilmington June 21st 1881
My Dear Dr. Gray,
The most welcome
New Year's call at our house this year
was made by you through your letter
of Dec. 12th. I sent it on to Redfield at
once and he has doubtless responded long
ere this. For my own delay I will make
only the excuse that I have been, since
the beginning of the year, a member of
the third house of the Delaware legis-
lature - a lobbyist in fact! Will you
ever have anything to do with me again?
Especially where I tell you that I am
ungratefully doing all I can to injure
you Phila. Mtn. & Balt. R.R. investment
by securing some legislation relating to
a new line of railway between Phila-
delphia and Baltimore. While on this
subject I may as well say that through

Delaware or West and North of it this road will go. Back of it are some of the heaviest capitalists of this country and I am satisfied that within a year it will be in running order. Doubtless Mr. Loring knows all about this.

But to come back to the pleasant record of your wanderings. We all enjoyed your account extremely and can well understand that you must feel as if you had lived a year in three months; and it is a matter of special rejoicing that you have returned from your delightful tour with renewed health and strength and are ready for "fresh fields and pastures new". We had some account of you from a note kindly sent by Miss Katharine Loring and from your note to Mr. Redfield; but your letter gave us a far better idea of what you had been passing through in the way of social pleasure as well as of your travel.

among the Chateaux and Cathedrals of Blois and Orleans and of your vicinities of "Castles in Spain" in reality and not in imagination.

Now, I have no doubt, you have got that Hydra-headed old rascal Aster "polished off" and may be turning your attention to getting *Orhidago* straightened out for which we shall be duly thankful. Much satisfaction may you have in conquering these tough old fellows and others almost as bad. Though I can enjoy botanical pleasures but rarely now, I share almost as much gratification as you self in the feeling that we shall henceforth have but little trouble among our *Compositae*. Last summer, Blackening got some puzzling forms of *Orhidago* *lentigin* or of some other species on the Roan, where he made a good collection.

I suppose that you get regular

Jan 24 '81

It is only a form of *P. macrostachya*.
Mr. Greene has carried off the palm
for new species and rare plants, and
is much elated by his success. It
will please you and Mrs. Gray to
know that our good friend Redfield
and his family were all well at
last accounts.

I had a few weeks since a very
kind letter from Dr. Warming who
wants some *Podostemum*. He appeared
to be very much pleased with that
which he received through you.

Now I must close rather hastily
for I have been interrupted and in
a half hour ~~will~~ ^{will be} off again for a
week. I am happy to say that we
are all as well as usual. Mrs. C.
cordially joins me in love to yourself
and Mrs. Gray. We hope that this
year may be the happiest of your
lives and that you may, in due time,

return to tell us so. And so I bid you,
Sincerely and cordially Yours,

J. M. Auld.

If you should come across any one
who is soft enough in heart and
brain to desire specimens of our flora
for those of China & Japan please in-
form him that I am the very one
to take advantage of his credulity.